



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2154
Docket No.: 826.1517

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Minoru KURIKI, et al.

Serial No. 09/189,410

Group Art Unit: 2154

Filed: November 10, 1998

Examiner: A. Caldwell

For: MESSAGE PROCESSING DEVICE, MESSAGE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND
STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING MESSAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 27 2002

Attention: **BOX AF**

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed November 28, 2001, and having a period for response set to expire on February 28, 2001. A Petition for a one-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to March 28, 2002.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REPLACE and ADD to the claims in accordance with the following:

Sub D 1. (TWICE AMENDED) A message processing apparatus connected to a plurality of terminals via a network, comprising:

a message management unit enabling a user at each of said plurality of terminals to compose interpersonal messages and to view and respond to received interpersonal messages respectively; and

a preparation unit preparing a receiver state list indicating states of a plurality of receivers of an interpersonal message that is managed by said message management unit.